

Whitney 7d
Nov 4, 1963

Ms. Am. 147 (20)

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Weymouth. March 28. 1885

Dear Mr Garrison

Many thanks for your note
received this morning.

You misunderstood my allusion
to religious opinions. I was not thinking
at all of Papeterism or Non Resi-
tance. I hardly knew your father's
opinion on the point, & I should think
it almost too narrow a basis on which
to found a system. As for Non
Resistance, I sympathize greatly
with its principles, till the breaking out
of our civil war & then on considering
the whole matter, they no longer
appeared to me tenable. But that
I still see a great beauty in them
you will believe, when I add that
I am very glad Mr Garrison
retained his early faith. But

Much as I deprecate War, I cannot
but feel there are occasions for
it. "Fruit pure, then pericard
must needs be the doctrine for the
present. But in proportion as a
Nation is just, it will usually be
pericard.

When I spoke of religious
opinion I had the doctrines of
Theodore Parker & the most ad-
vanced Unitarian in my mind.

Don't think for a moment that
I would have Mr Garrison brogin-
gham with hold any thing on the ground
of its unpopularity. I only felt that
his Anti Slavery Life would be
interesting to the world at large
while his opinion & labours on
other questions, would naturally be
subjects of great indifference &
so might occupy a smaller space.
I don't see any connexion

at all between Spiritualism &
the Cause. Mesmer & many
others were in the field long ago.
But I do think the Woman's Question
flowed naturally enough from an
A. S. source. The horrors of slavery
were so great, the emergency so terrible
that women were justified in pushing
forward in the public & earnest manner
those they did. It was one of the
great crises of human life. But
life is not made up of great
crises, & the idea that it is is one
of the rocks on which our poor
friend Wendell Phillips struck.

The Anti Slavery Cause has been
often termed a warfare, & it was
so, but it has resembled it painfully
in one particular that has not
been much noticed. At the close
of a great war, a number of
weary, hapless little individuals, those
have been unfired from their

usual life of common industry are
left loafing about. To it ^{some} was ^{the} ^{cause}
the cause. A number of women ^{who}
had been in a most primeval
manner attracted to the cause & ^{had} done
good work in it in one way or another
felt a most painful void in their
lives when they found the slave free
"bushells" occupation all gone, & no
more agitation, or exists more, or
their splitting cotton bolls, & hence
they have rushed forward to the
Woman's Question, finding analogies
where none exist.

I regret this not because
the Woman's Question ^{is} nature's concern
greatly miscees, for Nature will
look out for those. She did so, when
she primarily intended Women for
wives & mothers. But I regret that
~~those~~ ^{these} men should enter into
individual ^{inquiries} ~~inquiries~~, & as I have
said I wish to have all the ce, for
similarities that may come upon me as
an Abolitionist. I feel it the more
inimicable as men to work my hands
of all collateral issues. Pardon
this very imperfect

Agree with you
I will not trouble you